Can't be a fox without the long ears [English]

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< I'm your girl, just trust me!

"That was refreshing."

"Chirp."

"Yes, that too."

"Chirp?"

"Perhaps, we still have to decide what are we going to do first".

"Chirp..."

"For what? What good would that do us?"

"..."

"I figured"

The fox is laying down on a single bed. The room where she is is rather... empty. Nothing but the bed and a small table, and the closed window that allows the moon to illuminate both of them, of course. The bird is standing on top of her chest, as she plays with his beak with a single finger; he doesn't mind.

"All I want to do is to get the hell outta here before I get in more trouble. We'll do that tomorrow morning"

Her hair looks clean and limp, for once. She had dinner with the old deer and then a good bath. Mattier also looks all clean, and way cuter than her.

"Chirp, chirp chirp. Chirp chirp, chirp chirp chirp."

"... go on."

"Chirp chirp chirp, chirrrip, chirp."

"So... you say it would help us in the end?"

"Chirp."

"But we're not merchants, Mattier. I don't see what benefit would we..."

"Chirp chirp!"

"Ah.... g-guess so... that's really dirty, you know? We're not really desperate for money, and I can always pester my parents for-"

"Chirp."

"Y-yeah it's not like they give me enough to live but still."

"Chirp!"

"A-alright, alright, I get it! Geez..."

Could it be... the bird is actually greedy? Or is it she the one who is okay with having enough for a hot bath everyday?

Either way, what just happened is that the bird told the fox his idea. A complicated scheme indeed, and it is certainly dangerous, but he doesn't seem to mind that at all.

"It's easy to come to such ideas when you can easily fly away, huh..."

"Chirp~"

"So... we either make them amend their ways or decimate each other. The later would be really complicated and torublesome, but the former seems really difficult..."

The fox sits on the bed, and the bird swiftly jumps down her chest. Then she crosses her legs, brings her tail over them and the bird instantly jumps on top of that fluffy tail.

"During dinner... the deer said this war has started so many years ago nobody really rememebrs the reason anymore, but I highly doubt it's like that; nobody fights

without a motive. Hm... maybe the regular thugs don't know a thing, but I'm sure their leaders or so must have it clear."

"Chirp."

"Yes, that too."

"Chirp..."

"Say, Mattier..."

"Chirp?"

The fox girl smiles down at the sparrow, and then looks at the window. The moon looks so pretty...

"I've been thinking about what you said the other day. You know, when I spend the night in such a tranquil room like this, in a town where a noise can barely be heard at night... I think stop travelling doesn't sound so bad..."

"Chirp."

"But..."

"Chirp..."

"Yeah. I can't leave it just yet. There are

places I want to be, there are things I want to see... there are people I want to... people I have to meet."

"Chirp. Chirp, chirp."

"Haha, don't be so mean. I'm not sad, just a bit nostalgic."

The fox strokes the bird's head with just a finger, and then she yawns.

"Ah~ well, it's almost midnight by now, Mattier. Let me catch some z's. Tomorrow I'll be... thinking of a way to solve the mess that this place is..."

The sparrow looks happy. Yes, they might insult each other all the time, but they are friends in the end. Really, really good friends. One could easily say, one could not live without the other at this point. He jumps of her tail to the table, and right there sits down, closing his eyes.

"... hehe"

The girl giggles, checks on her phone one last time and yawns again, laying down with a hopeful yet tired smile, wishing for the best to meet their fate the next day.

. . .

"WHAT THE HELL IS THAT NOISE?!"

Both the fox and the sparrow are sticking their noses... her nose and his beak, against the glass of the window as the thunderous roar of drums, trumpets and various chord instruments seemingly fill the whole town. They can only see a little bit of what's going on outside, there are some big men and some wild-looking women playing music. No, playing 'music', because they are not harmonizing at all!

"W-what are they doing?!"

"Good morning, Laeyd."

As she turns around, she finds the deer lady on the door frame, smiling at her with pure peacefulness in her face.

"H-how is this a good morning?! What are those brutes doing?!"

"The weekly music contest, of course."

"W-weekly...?"

"Yes. From that window you could only see the Stompers, but at the other side of the park you could also see the Winders, doing exactly the same. They found this competition as a way to avoid killing each others all the time. So they train and-"

"Train?! They train for this?! God, I'm glad I don't have animal ears..."

"Well they are all brainless brutes, you can't expect good sound coming from them. But as long as there is less violence around..."

And the noise stops. Then a lot of yelling, as if the guilds were screaming at

each other things like 'our performance was better!' or 'what you did now just sucked!'. And then silence...

"Man, this is terrible and... and..."

And the fox smiles.

"... I won't have breakfast, Urdi... Urzi... Urt..."

"Chirp."

"Yes, Urdizina. I will leave right away and I'll probably come back at night. Mattier and I have some things to do in town today."

"Chirp?"

"Yes, yes we do."

"Huh... just make sure you don't go around picking trouble, Layed. Otherwise, I will not have more option than kicking you out. This is still a neutral zone."

"I know, I know, Don't ya worry, deer, I'll fix this town's problems in two days!"

"Hm?"

"Chirp..."

"Let's go, Mattier."

She picks up her bag, the bird jumps on her shoulder and they head out, with the confused look of the deer lady on their backs.

"Now, now. Yesterday we ran away from... the Stompers, at the east, those are the ones we're gonna meet first, Mattier. We have to solve things with them."

"Chirp?"

"Yes, it can't be too difficult. They didn't seem to be bothered by the scam, but mostly about the things I said. That can quickly be talked away with an apology, right? I've got this covered, friend. You just trust me."

"Chirp..."

. . .

This is some heavily overused cliché, ain't it? Can't help it, don't blame me; I'm just the narrator, everything that's happening is on the fox. And even if such a development was to be expected, no one could have stopped her from ending up like this.

"I'll find a way to get us outta this one, Mattier."

"..."

The fox is tied to a wooden chair. Her legs, her torso, her tail and her arms, and she ferociously looks at the big men arguing at the other side of the abandoned factory she's in. Ah, the sparrow is free, though, just standing on top of her head with a... somewhat... tired look.

"Now then, vixen."

And here comes one of the men, and Laeyd looks up at him, blinking innocently. He has long and pointy ears,

like a...

"An elf?"

"Yes, I am an elf. Surprised?"

"Well, we are not in elves' territory, so..."

"I just don't really get along with my peers, don't sweat the details."

It's a young man. Although quite muscular and tall, his hair is brownish and short, and there's a noticeable scar on his chin. And he's holding a bat against his shoulder.

"Little girl, I'm going to be honest with you. I don't like the idea of beating a girl, so let's solve this talking."

"Sweet! Just as a I wanted! S-see, Mattier?"

The elf notices the bird, but he doesn't care about him.

"Are you a sort of spy from the

Winders? I've never seen you before in this town, so you have to be an outsider."

"Uh- yes, I am, sir. I-I mean I'm an outsider! Not a spy. I'm just a traveler, nothing else!"

"And a scammer too. You destroyed a friend of mine playing cards, but..."

"Ah- haha~ well, that is..."

"I don't mind that, life out there can be pretty harsh so I'm not going to judge you. However, you did say some ugly stuff back then when you were discovered..."

"That was- that just because-"

"You know, stuff like... 'So what if you found out about the trick? What you gonna do? Call your friends? Your guild? I bet they are all a bunch of assholes like you! I'll beat the crap out of them all!'"

"..."

"Yes, stuff like that"

"I-I could have never known you were all part of the same guild!"

"What did you expect to happen, fox? You really think you could have handled by

yourself even two of my men?"

"N-no..."

"Then why provoking in the first place?"

"... I'm good at running away."

The elf sighs. He's not even mad, just tired and disappointed.

"Release her, this is pointless."

And, almost as if it was choreographed, all the other men sigh at the same time.

The fox is untied, free to go if she desires so, the elf is not even looking towards her anymore and seems to be dozing off with another member.

"How ungentle. My wrists..."

Laeyd frowns, rubbing the mark left on her skin by the ropes. But no time to lose, the bird looks at her and they both nod at each other.

"Yes, this is my chance."

"Chirp."

"Hey, elf."

The seemingly highest in rank among the men, the elf, straightens up slowly.

"My name is Ponit."

"Alright, Ponit. I want to talk to you and your men. Where can I meet your guild boss?"

"Right here."

Says the elf, winking at pointing at his chest with a thumb. The fox smiles excitedly.

"Great! I figured you would be some big fish. Now, as-"

"I'm not the boss."

"... but you..."

"Yes, the boss is right here, but I'm not him."

". . ."

Laeyd's face grows slightly worried. She turns her head to face Mattier, and the bird shrugs. 'That bird just shurgged?', 'Yeah, I think it did...' can be heard coming from the lesser men. Awkwardly, Laeyd scratches the back of her head.

"Ah... well... it's not my first time dealing with crazy people so-"

"Hey, boss. This chick wants to see you."

"Yes, yes, I'm listening..."

An extremely deep voice resonates from inside the chest pocket of the elf, and, before the amazed eyes of the bird and the fox, a tiny, comically well-dressed in a suit mouse jumps out to the elf's shoulder.

"What are you looking me for, young ones?"

"... why are-"

"Chirp!"

As if guessing what the fox is about to say, the bird smacks her on the cheek.

"Ah- oh, right! My name is Laeyd, and this guy here is Mattier! I needed to talk to you about the horribly ear-shattering spectacle you held this morning!"

"..."

As usual, her choice of words is terrible, and the air gets tense all of a sudden.

"Oh... what is it about this... spectacle? Do you care, foreigner?"

"Y-yeah! I cannot allow such terrible insult to good music to be uttered! I am here to help you!"

"What makes you think we need your help?"

"I am not a professional, but I do know a thing or two about music. You want to step on the Winders, right? Then I'm your girl, just trust me!"

Now it is the elf and the mouse the ones staring at each other. And they stay like that for a long time, one would think they are having a quiet conversation. In the end, the elf smiles as if saying 'we've got nothing to lose', and the mouse nods.

"Fine, Laeyd, we'll take on your offer. What do you want in return?"

"Hehehe! Don't you worry, I'll get my benefits too. Right, now I just want your name."

The elf quickly intervenes.

"Boss never tells his name to anyone who's not-"

"Tall. That's my name."

"B-boss..."

"You don't get it, Ponit. If this girl can really manage to make our guys sound good, then we will finally stomp on the

Winders once and for all. I am not reserving anything here."

"Alright! Tall, got it. I, Laeyd, give you my word that your guys are going to make the best music this lame town has seen!"

Laeyd reunited all of the Stompers that owned an instrument and lined them up according to their classification. She took notes of their main problems, quickly thought of an easy yet pleasant melody and began writing it down. All for herself, of course, the men didn't know how to read music sheets. And once it was all settled down on paper, she just began bossing them around, telling them what to do at exactly what time.

"Good, good! You're not half bad, you guys already know how the instrument works, you just needed some guidance... well, the one-eyed fox is right here for you!"

Didn't she hate being adressed like that?

Dumb fox.

The sparrow can only watch, he doesn't know about music either.

Just an hour and a half was needed for her to make the Stompers, who also looked really excited about musically surpassing their rival guild, play her melody nicely enough. Not perfectly, but good enough to call it music.

She puffs proudly.

She looks way better when she uses her energy for something productive instead of scamming people.

. . .

"That went way better than expected, don't you think?"

"Chirp."

"Yes, yes, it was scary at first but... people can get along just well if they talk everything through! Every single day that goes by only proves my point further."

"Chirp chirp, chirp?"

"Oh, haven't I? Sorry, sorry, I just thought it was such a good plan that I forgot to tell you about it."

"Chirp..."

"Don't make that face, it wasn't on purpose! Haha~"

Walking back to the neutral zone, with the bird on her shoulder and a paper bag full of candies that the Stompers gave her, she explains to him her plan. Mumbling, of course, such things are not to be told in a loud voice. In-between sentences, she giggles and eats candy; her tail wiggling from one side to the other, until they are finally in the central plaza.

"What do you think?"

"CHIRP!"

"Haha! Told you it was good! It's going to be... complicated to set up the scenario, but I think I can pull it off."

"Chirp?"

"Yes, but I'll figure that out later. Right

now... we have to go meet the Winders."

And they gaze to the west side of this small town. Confidently, yet unsure about how things will work out for them.

If something can be said about our dear fox, is that she can clearly put herself into some hard work, and that she's skillful and even smart at times, she just doesn't care enough.

...

No, it's not me trying to defend her again. I'm just the narrator, nothing else.

Jan. 28, 2022, 11:15 a.m. 3 comments

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Fatima Said @blossoms (/en/u/blossoms/)

Hey! It's me again! I was just reading the two chapters over again😅 and I just can't stop being amazed! Even if not so many people write their comments below, I'm sure they all enjoy not less than I do. I wanted to ask if you perhaps are done soon? It's not that I want to rush you, it's rather that I just can't wait!😁
Sorry for my curiosity, but can I know how old you are?
OMG, I just can't stop praising you for putting such a beautiful piece of art in the world and that I'm allowed to read it!!!😫 This book is the best one I've ever read and I wish there would exist an anime by your story too. This is just soooooooooooooo amazing!!! Keep going!❤❤❤

Reply · on 2021, 1 1 03 (/en/dashboard/story/comment/244441/vote/up/)

Fatima Said @blossoms (/en/u/blossoms/)

This really is beginning to be my favorite book🥰!!! It's just soo relaxing and amusing, funny and cool, surprising and unexpected, shocking and yet still obviously. It's just soooo amazing!😍😍😍😍😍
I really am looking forward to the next chapters!! Oh... already thinking about the time I have to wait for the next chapter makes me sad😩, but don't forget one thing: Never listen to haters or to disbelievers. Just keep going and don't change 💯 ✨
I believe in you and really look up to you!😁 I'm only 14 years old and I began writing a book about a year ago. And you are the one person to which I'm looking up to! I'm just so amazed! What you're writing is full of talent and effort! I'm sure it is😊! To sum up: Honestly, just keep going😌.
Oh and one more thing! Can I ask where you're from 🙃? I mean, is English your native language or did you just learn it with time? Because you have some not english books, which I can't read, since I don't understand that language, but your English writings are truly incredible. You don't use the one and same word the whole time and you use nice writing ways and and always change the sentence construction so it never gets boring and monotone🙃. Because if it's not

your native language, then it's quite hard to write the way you do! That really is amazing! 😮😮😮😍😍😍

I wish you all the luck in continuing writing and good health🍀🍀🍀

Best wishes

Reply comment January 28, 2022, 19:44 ♡ (/en/dashboard/story/comment/234659/vote/up/)

> **Hazo** @hazo (/en/u/hazo/)
>
> Thanks you so much for such nice words, they make me really happy. It's an incredible bless to see someone enjoying my work this much, I am truly grateful to you.
>
> Yes, english is not my first language, that would be spanish! I have been talking and writing in english since a very long time ago, but I still feel like I have to improve a whole lot, so thanks you again for your kind words!
>
> I'll try to update more frequently and not keep people waiting like before, sorry about that!
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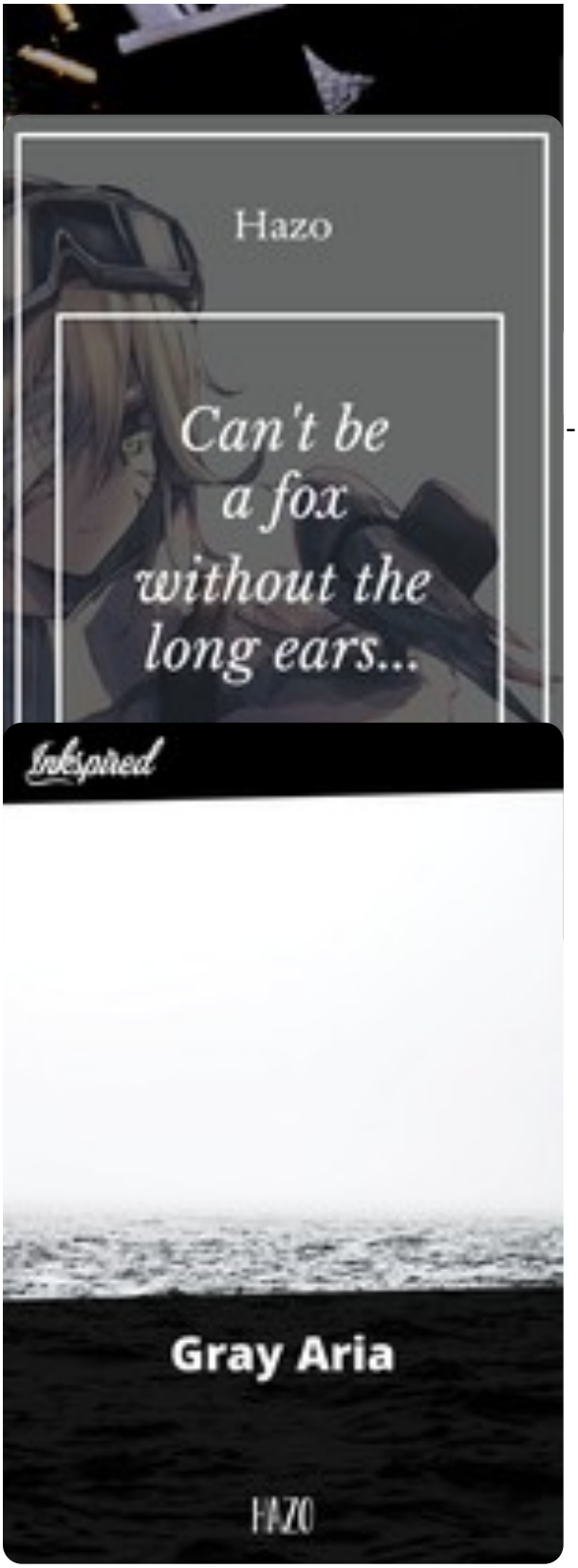

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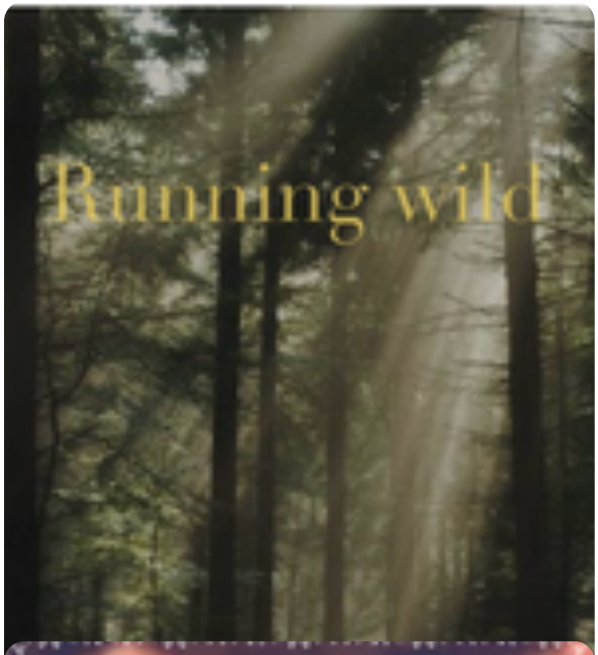

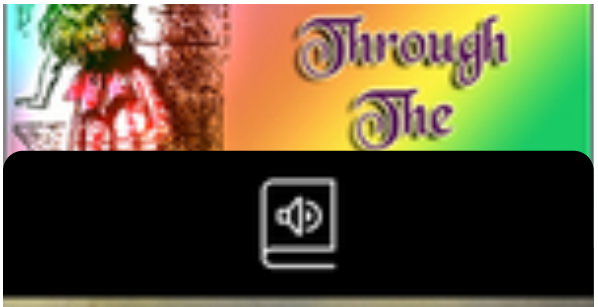
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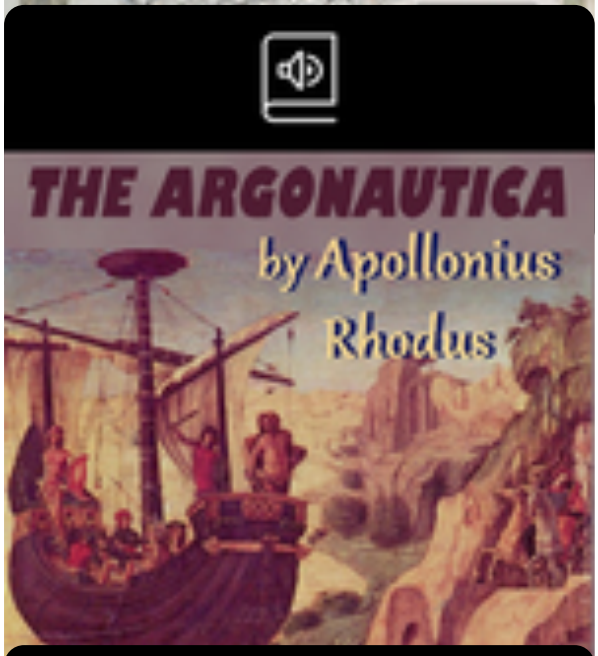
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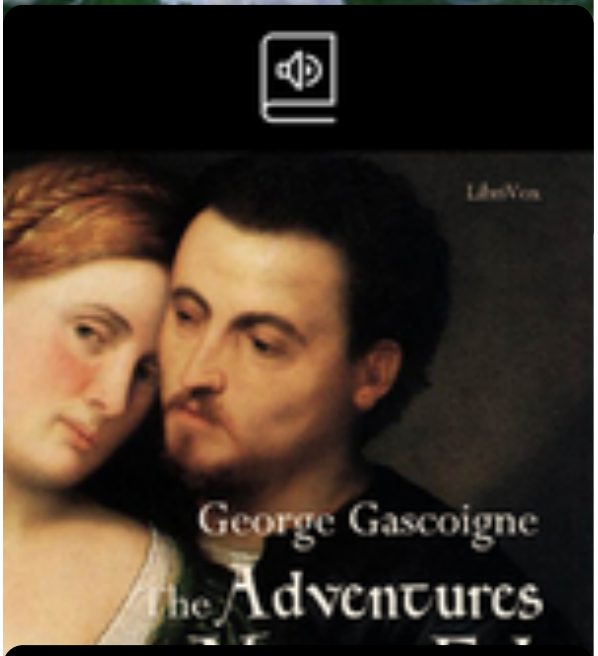
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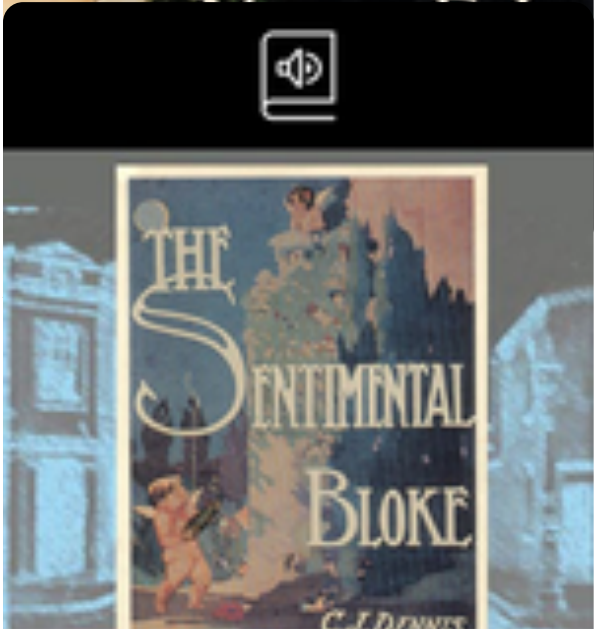
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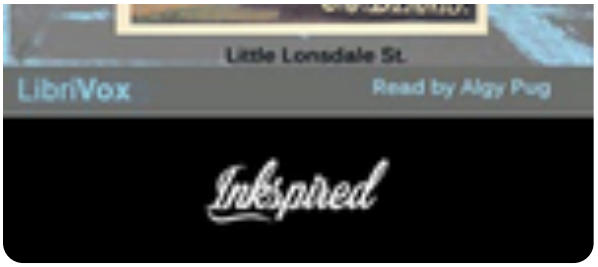

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